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SKYBOUND

112

INVINCIBLE



ROBERT KIRKMAN
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image COMICS PRESENTS

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ROBERT KIRKMAN

WRITER

RYAN OTTLEY

PENCILER

CLIFF RATHBURN

INKER

JOHN RAUCH

COLORIST

RUS WOOTON

LETTERER

SEAN MACKIEWICZ

EDITOR

COVER BY RYAN OTTLEY & JOHN RAUCH

CREATED BY ROBERT KIRKMAN & CORY WALKER

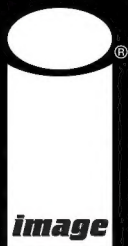


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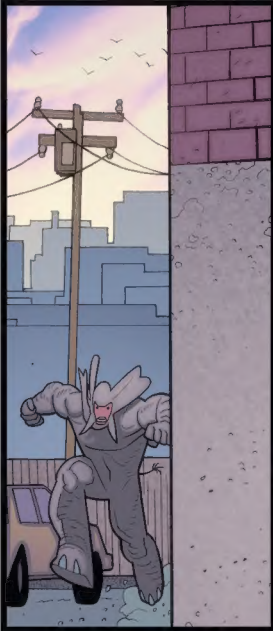
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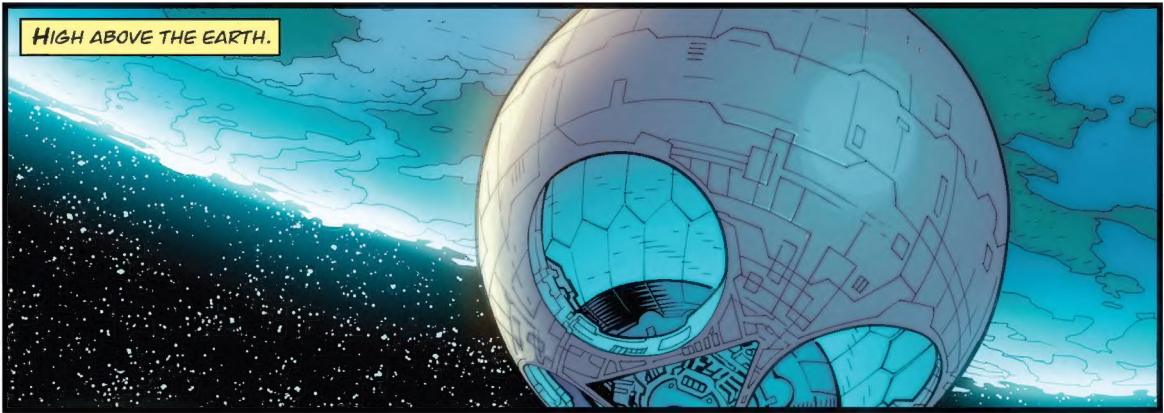
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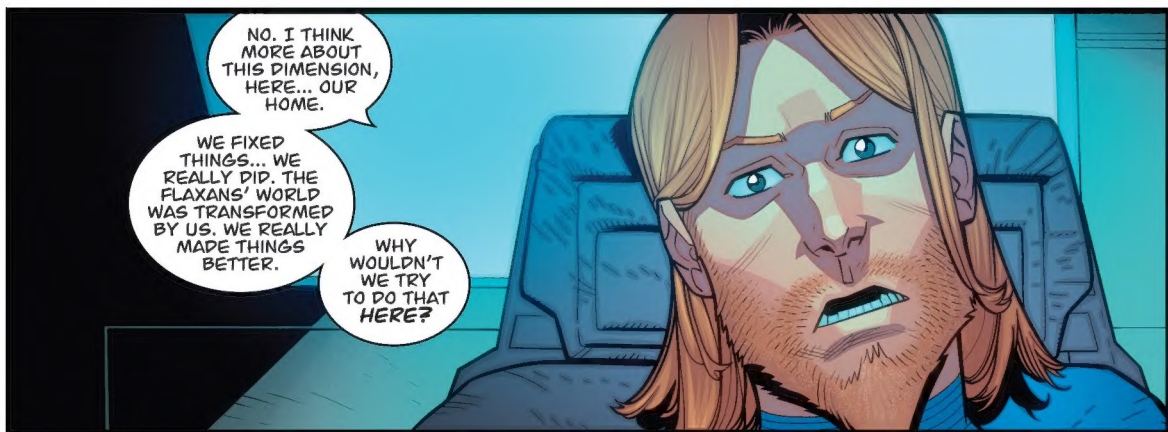
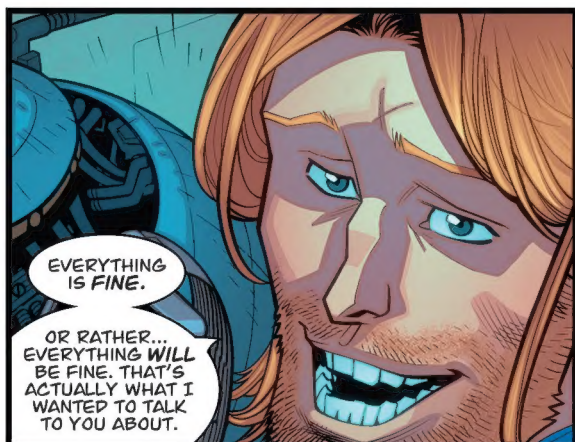














HOW WOULD YOU EVEN GO ABOUT THAT?

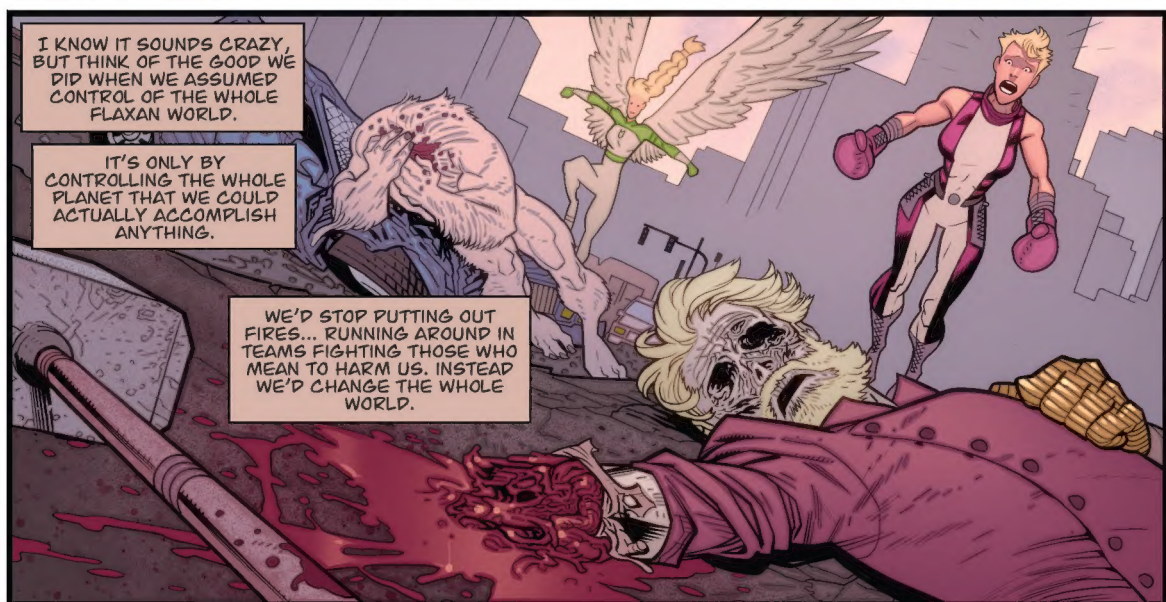
SAME WAY WE DID THERE... BY TAKING OVER.



OH, COME ON, REX--



I'M SERIOUS.



I KNOW IT SOUNDS CRAZY, BUT THINK OF THE GOOD WE DID WHEN WE ASSUMED CONTROL OF THE WHOLE FLAXAN WORLD.

IT'S ONLY BY CONTROLLING THE WHOLE PLANET THAT WE COULD ACTUALLY ACCOMPLISH ANYTHING.

WE'D STOP PUTTING OUT FIRES... RUNNING AROUND IN TEAMS FIGHTING THOSE WHO MEAN TO HARM US. INSTEAD WE'D CHANGE THE WHOLE WORLD.



IT SOUNDS CRAZY UNTIL YOU ACKNOWLEDGE THAT WE'VE DONE IT BEFORE.

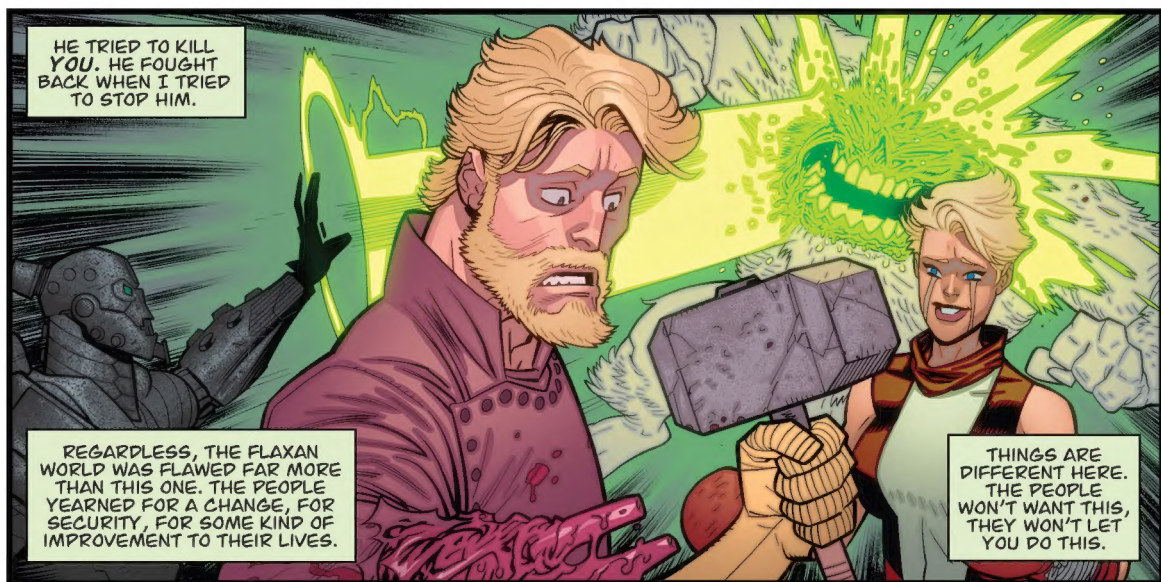


BUT THERE WERE PROBLEMS THEN... THERE WERE PEOPLE WHO WERE HURT IN THE PROCESS. WHAT WE DID... YOU HAVE TO ADMIT IT WAS FLAWED.

THE ZAXALS--



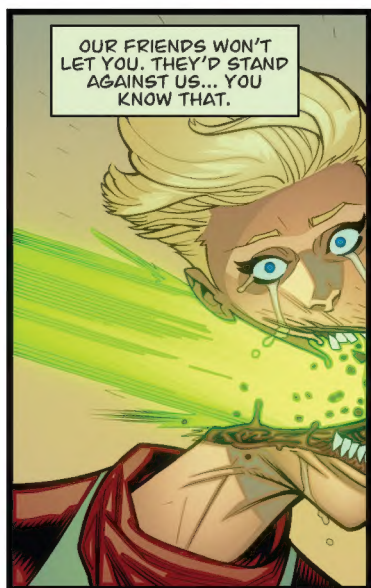
AMANDA, PLEASE... DON'T TELL ME YOU BUY INTO MONAX'S LIES. I KNOW HE'S... YOUR SON, BUT YOU HAVE TO ADMIT THAT HE'S CRAZY. HE TRIED TO KILL YOU.



HE TRIED TO KILL YOU. HE FOUGHT BACK WHEN I TRIED TO STOP HIM.

REGARDLESS, THE FLAXAN WORLD WAS FLAWED FAR MORE THAN THIS ONE. THE PEOPLE YEARNED FOR A CHANGE, FOR SECURITY, FOR SOME KIND OF IMPROVEMENT TO THEIR LIVES.

THINGS ARE DIFFERENT HERE. THE PEOPLE WON'T WANT THIS, THEY WON'T LET YOU DO THIS.



OUR FRIENDS WON'T LET YOU. THEY'D STAND AGAINST US... YOU KNOW THAT.



I'M AWARE OF THAT, YES.



THAT WOULD BE OUR FIRST HURDLE.

ANYTHING THAT COULD
POTENTIALLY STAND IN
OUR WAY WOULD NEED TO
BE DEALT WITH FIRST.



HOW? I THOUGHT YOU DIDN'T WANT THEM KNOWING HOW LONG WE WERE IN THAT DIMENSION.

DO YOU THINK YOU COULD EXPLAIN YOURSELF TO THEM? I MEAN... HOW WOULD YOU SIT THEM DOWN ONE BY ONE AND SELL THEM ON THIS IDEA?

YOU'RE RIGHT, THAT ABSOLUTELY WOULDN'T WORK. WE'D NEED TO TRY SOMETHING ELSE.



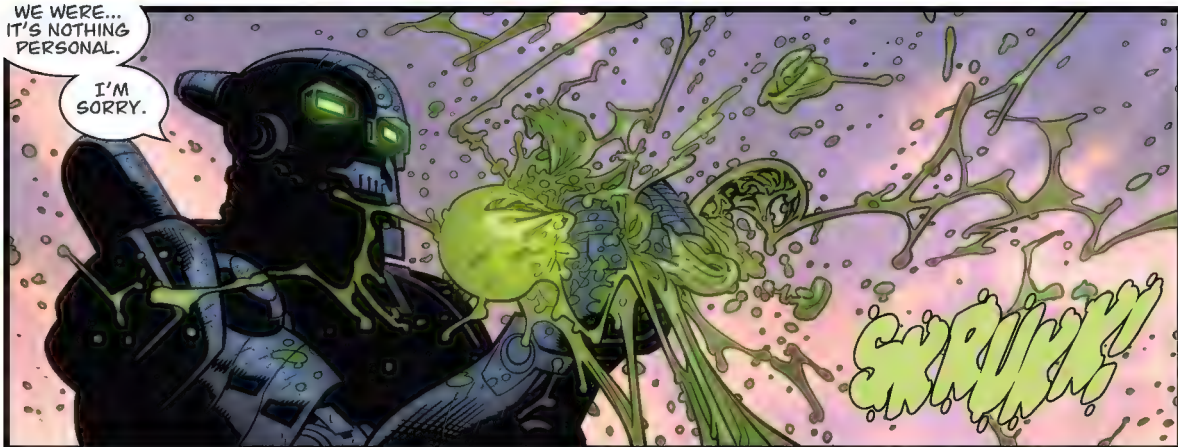
BUT... BUT...



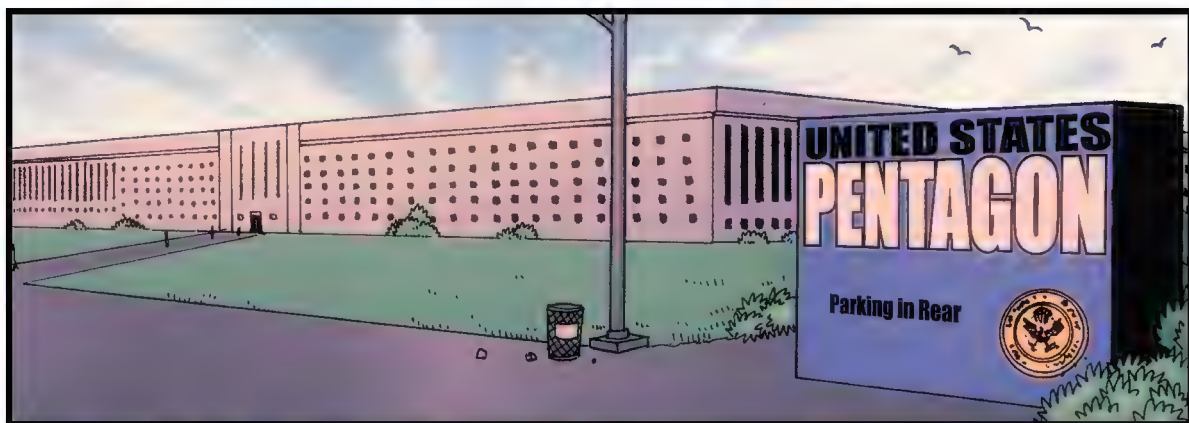
I THOUGHT WE WERE FRIENDS.

WE WERE... IT'S NOTHING PERSONAL.

I'M SORRY.



SKRUK!



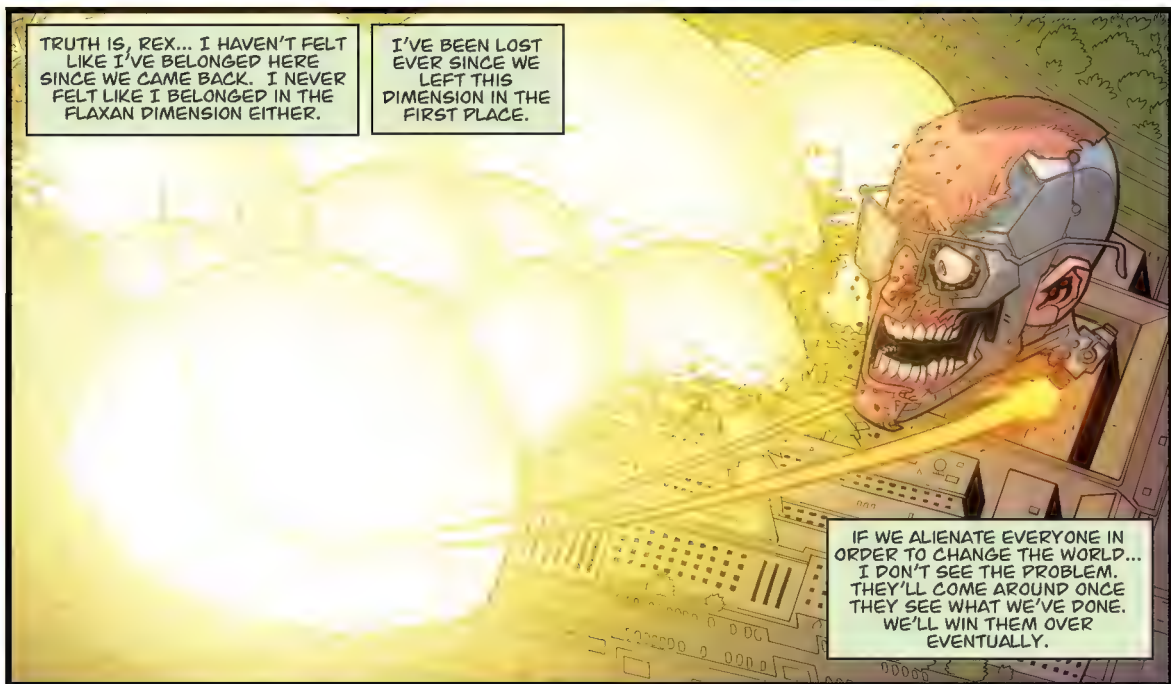


WHAT I AM PROPOSING
WOULD PUT US AT ODDS
WITH OUR CLOSEST
FRIENDS AND ALLIES.



WHAT I NEED YOU TO
UNDERSTAND IS THAT
THE OUTCOME... WHAT
WE'LL ACHIEVE BY
DOING THIS... IT'S
WORTH IT.

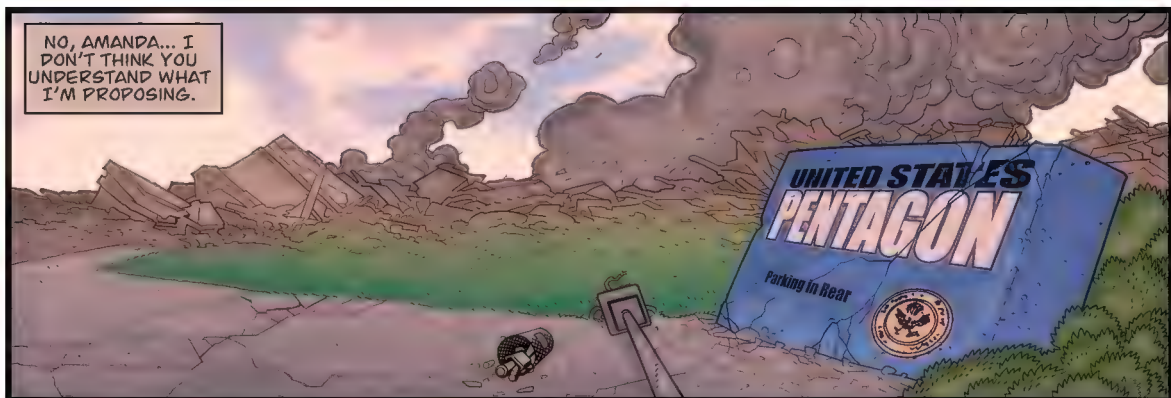
IT'S WORTH LOSING
EVERYTHING...
BUT I NEED YOU BY
MY SIDE, AMANDA.



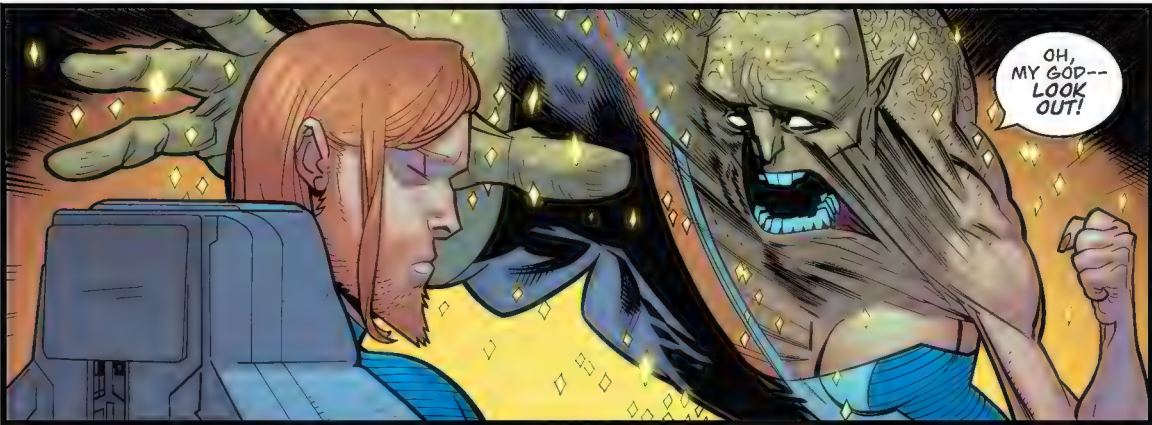
TRUTH IS, REX... I HAVEN'T FELT
LIKE I'VE BELONGED HERE
SINCE WE CAME BACK. I NEVER
FELT LIKE I BELONGED IN THE
FLAXAN DIMENSION EITHER.

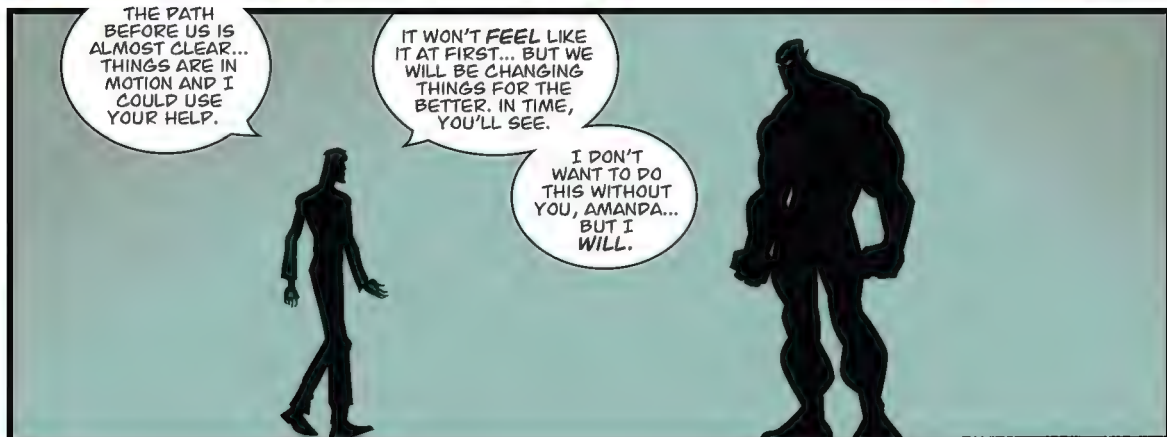
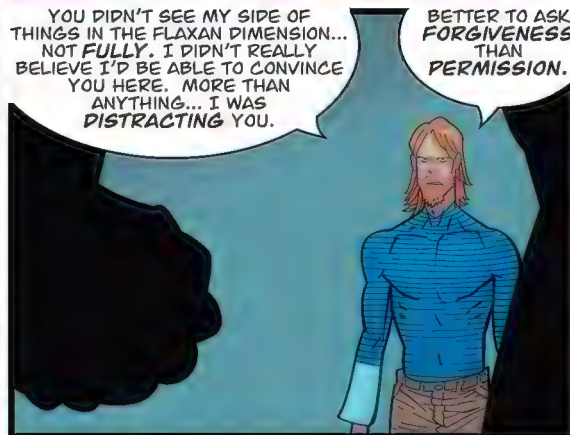
I'VE BEEN LOST
EVER SINCE WE
LEFT THIS
DIMENSION IN THE
FIRST PLACE.

IF WE ALIENATE EVERYONE IN
ORDER TO CHANGE THE WORLD...
I DON'T SEE THE PROBLEM.
THEY'LL COME AROUND ONCE
THEY SEE WHAT WE'VE DONE.
WE'LL WIN THEM OVER
EVENTUALLY.



NO, AMANDA... I
DON'T THINK YOU
UNDERSTAND WHAT
I'M PROPOSING.







MONAX... HE TOLD ME WHAT YOU ARE... AND I DIDN'T BELIEVE HIM.

YOU DID HUNT DOWN AND KILL THE ZAXALS, DIDN'T YOU? YOU ARE A...



MONSTER?

THAT'S WHAT HE SAID, DIDN'T HE? I KILLED THE ZAXALS, THE ONE YOU MATED WITH... ALL THE OTHERS I COULD FIND... I TRIED TO KILL YOUR BABY, BEFORE HE GREW INTO MONAX.

SO YES, I KNEW HOW DEEPLY YOU HAD BETRAYED ME, THAT YOU'D FATHERED A CHILD. I FORGAVE YOU... AND I TRIED TO ERASE IT. THINKING BACK, I WAS ALWAYS CAPABLE OF DOING WHAT NEEDED TO BE DONE, NO MATTER HOW UGLY.

AM I A MONSTER? MAYBE I ALWAYS WAS... BENEATH THE SURFACE.

WHO KNEW WE HAD SO MUCH IN COMMON?



WHY, REX?!

WHY?!

I LOVED YOU!

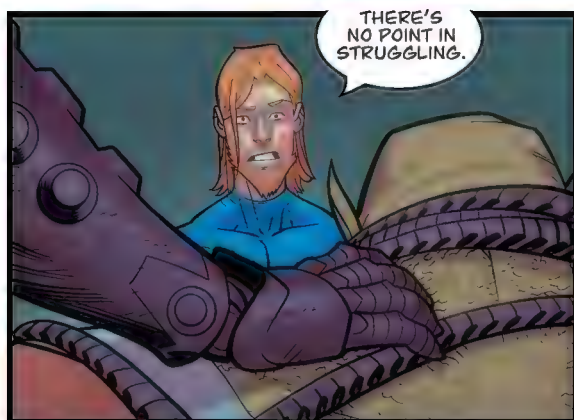
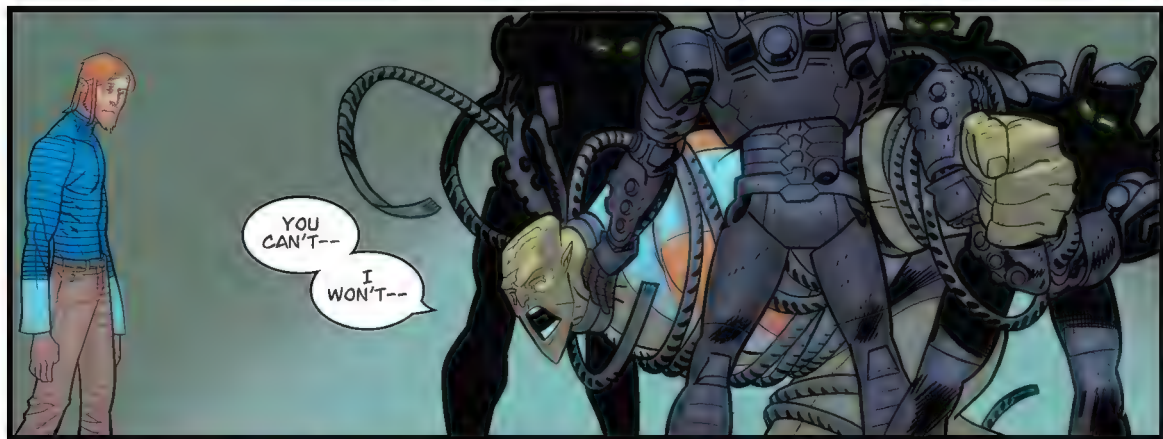


"LOVED?"

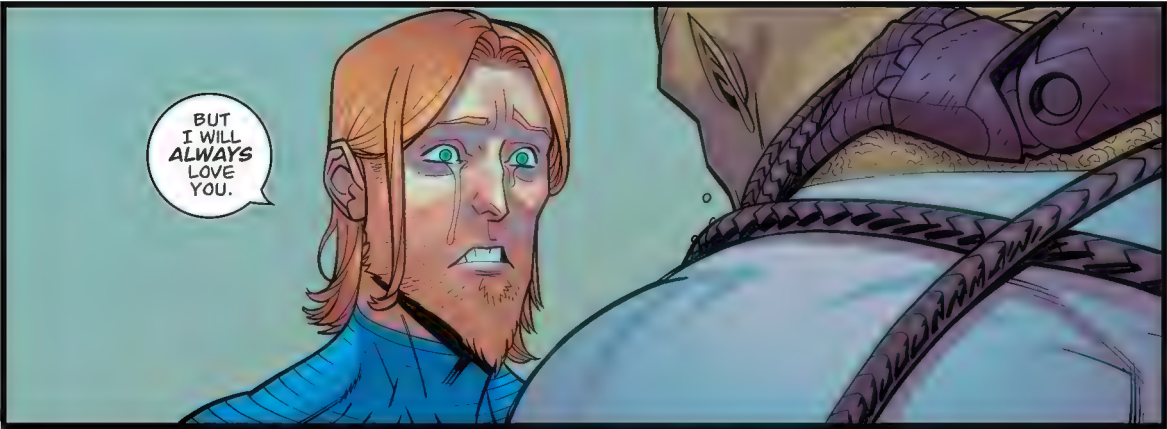
YOU'RE REALLY NOT GOING TO HELP ME...

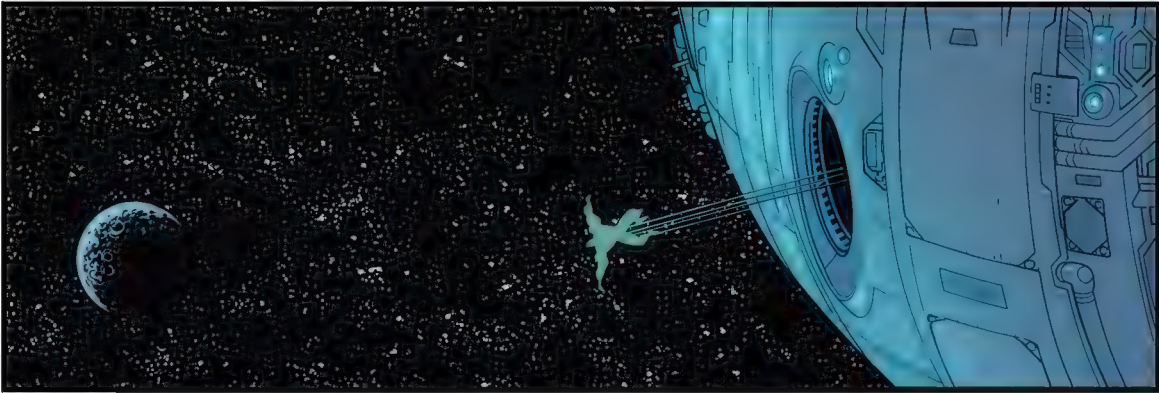
WHAT AN IDIOT I'VE BEEN. I NEVER CONSIDERED WHAT THIS WOULD DO TO US.

I DIDN'T THINK IT WOULD COME TO THIS.









WRITE US @

INVINCIBLE@SKYBOUND.COM

PENVINCIBLE

If you're looking for happy endings, I don't think this is the comic for you. Robot's (which I actually typed out as "Robert's" first) world conquest continues!

Heh. I'm nowhere near as bad as Robot's turned out to be! Crazy times... and things are FAR from over.

Wow.

What an emotional read. The pictures, the actions, the words. I'm left stuttering. I had to read it slowly. And then read it again even more slowly. I'm sort of new to comics, but I've never heard of a Superhero being raped. That is about as far from the status quo as I can imagine. This is the worse day of Mark Grayson's life... until next issue I assume.

And I have always loved Ryan Ottley's work, but reading this issue it really struck me just how much work Ottley, Rathburn, Rauch, and the whole design team put into this comic. That's what we really see. They put the whole thing together, and it is stunning. I've never seen a page like the horrible rape scene Ryan drew. It seems so brutal and real. I shiver thinking about it. The scene between Mark and Eve was just as real. Every action, every signal Mark had missed had just caught up with him.

Wow.... what can possibly be coming next? I know I won't be the only reader in tears by the end of this arc.

Jacob Bigus
Kansas City, MO

The end of the arc? Most comics wait until the end of an issue to change up the status quo. Right now we're doing it every scene.

Robert,

Are you kidding me? After a lull in quality I thought you had made a lot of improvement with the last few issues, but this one was horrendous. Soap opera level drama for the first half and that ending? I am not sure if it was meant to be edgy, but it seemed more like what I would expect from some juvenile Wonder Woman fanfic. I remember you mentioned in a previous letter column how you thought it was great that someone read your comics while on the toilet. How do you feel about me wiping with the issue once I am done? Please get things back on track.

Sincerely,
Gabe

Letter of the year! Congrats, Gabe!

We now have a stack of #110 in the Skybound bathroom in your honor.

Penvincipals,

I have never read anything like what happened in the end of #110 in a comic book before. I'd heard that there

was rape involved in this issue before I got my hands on it, but I assumed it would be a female character - which I'm glad it wasn't - but those last few pages, and even the fight scene that preceded them made for uncomfortable reading. That's not a criticism though, as the fact that it made for uneasy reading shows that we care for the characters in the pages of Invincible, and that's what has kept me coming back every issue since #1.

I suspect you'll get some letters off people saying they're not going to read another issue after this one. If so: ignore them. I've always felt this comic book pushes boundaries - in particular with what we come to expect from comic book tropes - but the finished article is always something unexpected. As I already mentioned, I'd already heard what this issue involved, yet it still managed to surprise/shock me! Surprising long term comic book fans is definitely a gift that Robert Kirkman and Ryan Ottley possess in abundance, and I for one thank you.

John Turner
Liverpool, UK

Thanks, John. The events of issue 110 will stick with Mark for the duration of this series. Part of the enthusiasm I have for this book is the fact that I can do these kind of events, the kind of things corporate comics sometimes do for shock value... but see them through to their logical end, and really dig deep into what these events mean for these characters. Stay tuned.

Dear Mr. Kirkman,

I know when you say you're going to change the status quo, you mean it. But seriously, what the heck! First making Robot bad, but now Mark losing Eve? Aaaaagh! I could handle Robot, but Eve is too much. Marks double page spread was my exact reaction. Anyway, next month I wanna see some more Robot and his carnage.

Keep pulling my heart strings,
Zildjian Meyer

Robot and carnage is about as close as we get to the status quo here.

Heh.

Hi There,

I've been reading invincible since the very beginning and have never written in before but feel compelled to because issue 110 is the first time I have not enjoyed an issue of this excellent series.

The breakup storyline between Eve and Mark felt too sudden, rushed and completely out of character. But then to follow that with our hero being raped in the same issue just did not work for me at all.

I have always found this series to be amazingly original

whilst following themes that any comic fan knows well but issue 110 just felt wrong.

I hate to say I'm disappointed but unfortunately its true.

Glyn

Re: the breakup feeling too rushed... Eve laid this all out for him in #108 before he rushed off to find Angstrom. Basically everything she warned him about happened, and she lived in uncertainty for months while he was away. I don't think the level of hurt she was experiencing was unjustified in the least.

I would add that this is far from the first time Eve has been left alone for an extended period of time to assume Mark is dead. Remember the Viltrumite War? And this time... he did it voluntarily, after she begged him not to go. Bear in mind, months passed in issue 109 while Mark was in the other dimension... this has been building for a long time.

Dear Robert,

First let me say that I am waiting for issue #111 with bated breath. You have masterfully woven a story that it is very compelling and exciting. While I've been waiting for the issue to come out I have been going back and rereading the stories over and over. I crave more and more. I fantasize about Invincible the movie. I want the world to know and love INVINCIBLE THE GREATEST COMICBOOK SUPERHERO! I want to touch on some other points.

The evolution of Robot into a major villain has been very interesting. At first I was not sure if I liked it as he has been one of my favorite supporting cast members. That being said, my hope is that he will become Invincible's Doctor Doom, Red Skull, Joker and Lex Luthor all rolled into one. As much as I love Invincible, I'm struck that he does not have a major villain that shows up at the most inconvenient moments to make the heroes life hell. I want that for Invincible. He needs a villain that will challenge him to greater heights of heroism. My one request is don't rehabilitate Robot or kill him. The one flaw I see in your stories is that you have a bit of Chester Gould in you as it relates to your villains.

Chester Gould (LIKE YOU) came up with great villains for his hero (DICK TRACY) to fight. Then after an epic battle he would kill them off. Instead of saving some of his villains and allowing them to comeback and plague the hero again, he just killed them. After a few years all the good villains were dead and he was left with mediocre villains for his hero to fight. I don't want that for Invincible.

Thus far you have killed his best villains Dinosaur and Angstrom Levy. This kinda sucks as they were really awesome villains in there own right.

And Conquest!

My thought has always been that having a reoccurring villain is complete bullshit. How many people has the Joker killed? He just keeps coming back? Spider-Man is fighting Doctor Octopus for the one-hundredth time and that's supposed to be compelling? I'm firmly in the "Galactus should have never come back to Earth" camp. It diminishes the threat if they're defeated over and over and over again. I'd rather build new villains. Angstrom Levy was around from issue... 15, 16(?) to issue 108. That's a LONG time to be around. And Dinosaur was a relatively recent creation... so while I won't give away what my ultimate plans are for Robot, I'd just ask you to trust us to not run out of new cool villains to introduce.

So now we come to ROBOT! WOW his time on Flaxan has really corrupted him. It is so exciting to think about all the destruction a person that brilliant could cause. Its like watching Reed Richards and Tony Stark turning into the

ultimate baddass. My only desire is that at the end of the battle he starts dimension hopping to gather more force and technology thus making his next attack even more deadly.

Now about the rape issue. Whoa! didn't see that coming. When I read about it I was like huh? Then I read it and it made me ask so many questions. Like is this Anissa's way to have an heir to the throne? Will she eventually keep raping Mark and become pregnant? Raise a child with issues like Modred to King Arthur. Will she some how get exiled to another dimension before she gets pregnant and hook up with Robot in Invincible's cloned body, then get pregnant and comeback with a brood of Viltrumite warriors to make OUR Invincibles life a baby momma hell. Will Eve miscarry? Or worse get killed. Both would be tragic. The latter even more so if Mark caused it by accident.

These questions and many more are what compel me to wait for the upcoming issues like a teenager all over again. I've got to say, I LOVE IT. THANK YOU! Keep up the great work.

Your biggest fan.

Gregory

I'm certainly not going to answer any of those questions here. Stay tuned.

Holy Crap Mr Kirkman,

I guess I didn't put it together that both the walking dead and invincible were going in brand new directions until now but I JUST saw the ad for invincible #111 and read walking dead #127.

I can't tell if this direction is a tongue and cheek response to the marvel now and new 52 or if you're just bored but hey - count me on board with these changes. I loved the direction i thought the book was going but I'm even more exited to find out that you'll do whatever heck you want and if there's a new number one or new direction - it's not just a worthless cross over that will be re written or ret conned in three weeks!

Jah-bless creator owned properties and make mine... urm..Image!

(Gonna have to work on an image fan cry that sticks).

Ahron Reinhard
Silver spring, MD

Juvenile Marvel/DC disses? We would never resort to that. We don't ever beef down.

The directions in both of these books are honestly just business as usual. Don't let the marketing make you think they're something they're not. The BIG changes to both of these books, may be the biggest changes the books have ever seen... but I'd argue both of these books have always been fairly volatile over the years.

So no... no jokes about Marvel/DC endless ineffective reboots that are shattering the foundation of this industry. I love that! They're making Image's rise to the top happen that much quicker.

Robot kills. That's what you're expecting, right?

-Sean Mackiewicz

Thanks for reading, everyone. Tons of cool stuff coming next issue, too! It's going to be Invincilicious!

-Robert Kirkman

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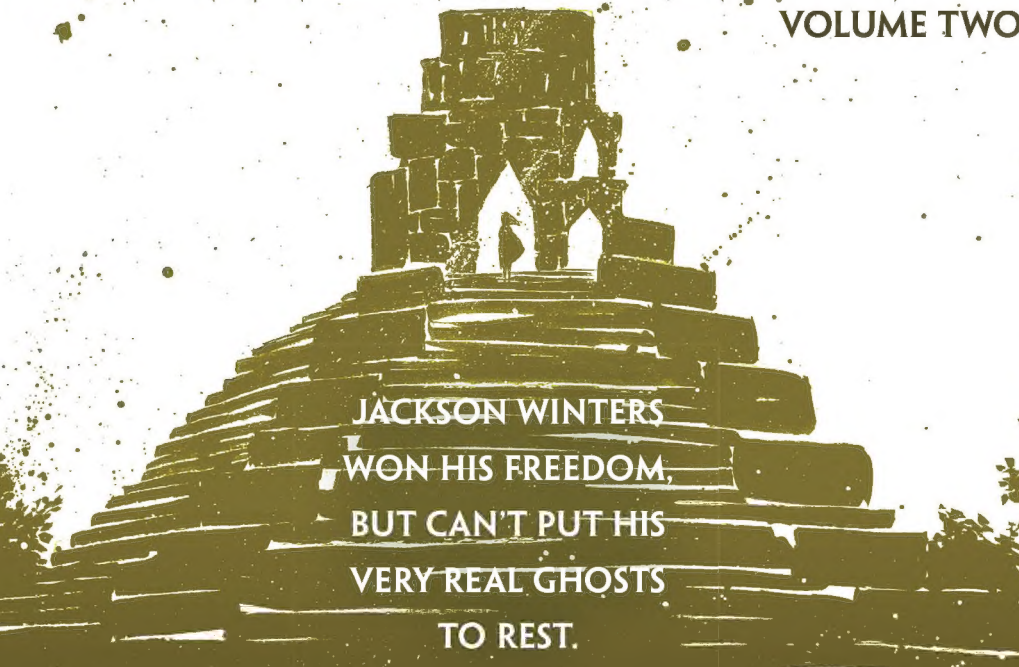
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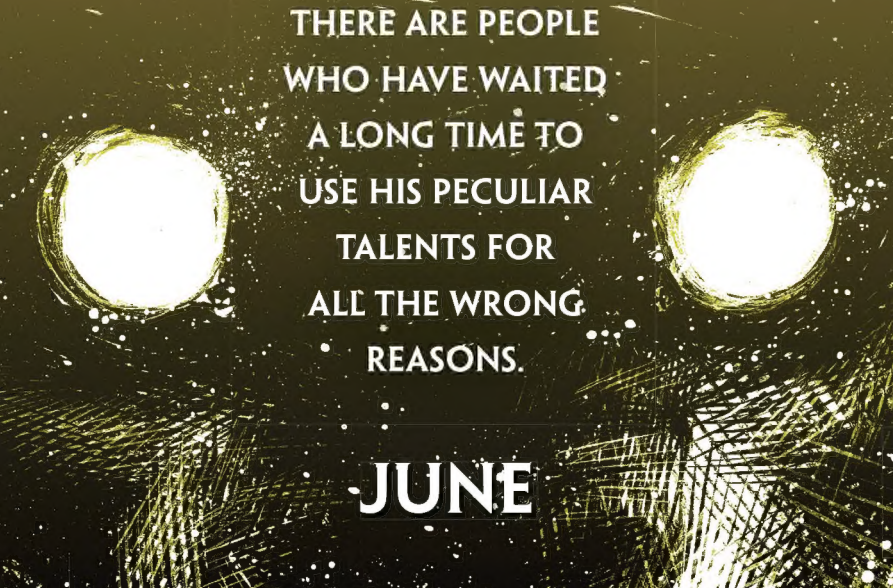
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VOLUME TWO



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BUT CAN'T PUT HIS
VERY REAL GHOSTS
TO REST.



THERE ARE PEOPLE
WHO HAVE WAITED
A LONG TIME TO
USE HIS PECULIAR
TALENTS FOR
ALL THE WRONG
REASONS.

JUNE



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